

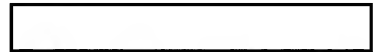
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3 June 1963

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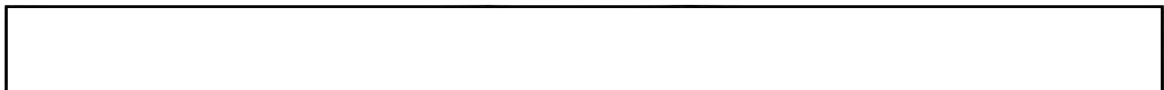


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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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Yemen: The revolutionary regime is beset with grave internal problems which it apparently hopes to ease through union with Egypt.

The US Embassy reports that there is growing disenchantment with the republican government among the tribes in the areas it controls. The regime's concern over its financial difficulties and the growth of Soviet influence, and increasing religious friction are contributing to an atmosphere of uncertainty and suspicion. On 26 May, the government arrested some 80 civilians and military personnel on charges of plotting.

The regime seems to believe union with Egypt is its only hope. President Sallal, now visiting Cairo, probably is making a plea for union to Nasir, although Sallal is aware that Nasir is reluctant to take on Yemen's problems.

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South Vietnam: (The Diem government is becoming increasingly concerned over continuing demonstrations by Buddhists aimed at securing better treatment from the government, but appears uncertain over what further steps to take.)

(Diem seems convinced that his political enemies are exploiting the religious ferment by insisting on impossible concessions. Some Buddhist leaders reportedly have threatened to seek Viet Cong support if necessary to achieve their demands.)

(Demonstrations during the past several days were marked by moderation on the part of both the government and the Buddhists. However, religious spokesmen have stated that their demands have not been met and that they are planning more protest demonstrations.)

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Malaya-Indonesia: (Malayan Prime Minister Rahman believes that his talks with Sukarno in Tokyo have cleared the way for the 7 June tripartite ministerial discussions with the Philippines on the proposed Federation of Malaysia.)

(Sukarno apparently did not push for postponement of the establishment of Malaysia during the Tokyo talks, and Rahman believes that Sukarno's approval of the joint communiqué indicates that he "has publicly abandoned" his policy of directly opposing Malaya on the issue. Rahman said that Sukarno is concerned over Indonesia's economic plight and recognizes that his opposition to Malaysia could diminish the chances for increased Western economic aid.)

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Laos: Souvanna is trying to increase pressure on the Pathet Lao to cease their military activity in order to create a favorable atmosphere for negotiations among the Laotian factions. On 1 June Souvanna publicly charged that "foreign troops"--the North Vietnamese--were spearheading the current attacks, and the next day he called on the Pathet Lao to halt their shelling of the neutralist positions in the Plaine des Jarres. Despite Pathet Lao pressure on neutralist elements the Pathet Lao have not advanced their forward positions on the Plaine des Jarres.

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Israel-Syria: Syria's objections to Israeli agricultural activity in disputed areas of the demilitarized zone have resulted in a series of minor incidents, including "warning shots" by Syrian border troops. Remonstrances by local UN officials have had little impact on the Syrians. Israel's forbearance to date may reflect its reluctance to create a rallying crisis for the Arabs which might reverse the trend toward disunity resulting from differences between Nasir and the Baath-dominated regimes in Syria and Iraq.

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[REDACTED]

Somali Republic - USSR: (Somali Premier Abdirascid, who during the past several months has been expanding his relations with Communist China and the Soviet bloc, claims he has received intimations that he can obtain financial assistance from the USSR and Communist China. He informed the US ambassador on 27 May that he had discussed his government's acute budgetary difficulties with the Soviet ambassador, who promised to take up the matter in Moscow.)

[REDACTED]

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Rumania-USSR: A Soviet party delegation in Rumania, led by Presidium Member Podgorny, is apparently making no headway in its efforts to overcome Bucharest's opposition to some of the Soviet-sponsored bloc economic integration policies. In a speech at Brasov on 29 May, made in the presence of the Soviet delegation, Rumanian politburo member and Party Secretary Ceausescu quoted Lenin in support of Bucharest's position and reiterated the regime's view that "equalization of the level of development of socialist states is indispensable for the construction of Communist society." Rumania's resort to an ideological argument in the name of Lenin will make any compromise even more difficult than before.

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The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

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